

Darien Town Government Access Television  
TV 79 Advisory Board

Tuesday  
December 1, 2009  
Room 206  
7:30 p.m.

Agenda

Present: Lynn Hamlen, Wilder Baker, Jim Cameron, David Dever, Gene Coyle,  
Mike Wheeler

Absent: Marilyn Hart

1) The meeting was called to order by Chair Lynn Hamlen at 7:32pm.  
The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

2) Programming update

Jim Cameron report: The election cycle is now complete. TV79 televised both the LWV Candidate Night as well as the News12 Candidate night.

3) Staffing and budget

With 42% of the fiscal year completed, we have spent 24% of our budget. We are covering 4-5 meetings per week. We might expand to additional meetings after the new year as the budget allows. Jim plans to reach outside of Town Hall to interview more community leaders.

In addition, TV79 will cover more local events like the "Festival of Wreathes" to provide more programming over the holidays.

Patch has been using [TV79 highlights](#) on its web site.

4) Consolidation of Video Projects Letter

The Board approved a letter to be sent to the First Selectmen offering TV79's assistance as other Town departments evaluate expanding the use of video in their training and outreach program.

5) Tech Update

Dave Dever reports our equipment is 3 years old and is being stressed by its use.

We will begin a planned replacement cycle with funds approved by Area 9 and the approved CapEx budget from the Town of Darien. Dave is evaluating adding capabilities to Room 119 and Room 213.

The goal is to be able to record meetings in 4 rooms simultaneously.

#### 6) Alliance for Community Media conference 11/7

Dave and Jim attended the Conference of largely other community broadcasters. They reported the FCC is reviewing a case in Dearborn, MI which would require Cablevision in CT. to offer a free set top box to any resident who requests one to be able to view TV79.

Cablevision currently charges \$5.00 per month to lease a box for those who failed to request a free box in the period surrounding the national conversion from analog to digital TV.

#### 7) A FOIA victory

TV79 learned that an Ad-Hoc Flood Mitigation Committee had been formed by the previous First Selectman that included representatives of a number of local elected committees and agencies.

Town Counsel ruled that the Ad Hoc committee meetings are subject to access by TV79.

#### 8) Veterans Day: a TV79 "first"

TV79 did its first live event outside of Town Hall to carry live the Veteran's Day Memorial Service. We hope that this will be just the first of other opportunities as technology capabilities continue to increase and their cost continue to fall.

#### 8) Other business

Our guidelines suggest that some members of our committee's terms have expired and are subject to reappointment. We are a committee of 5, only 3 of whom may be from the same party.

Lynn Hamlen will review the charter to determine who is subject to reappointment, determine their continued interest and report her findings to the Board of Selectmen.

The meeting adjourned at 8.25pm.